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Luxury Baby Shoes
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Hispanic Film Series Finale
Con la Pata Quebrada explores cinema's treatment of women in the '30s on **page 11**

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The Spectator

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25% acceptance rate for the second year in a row

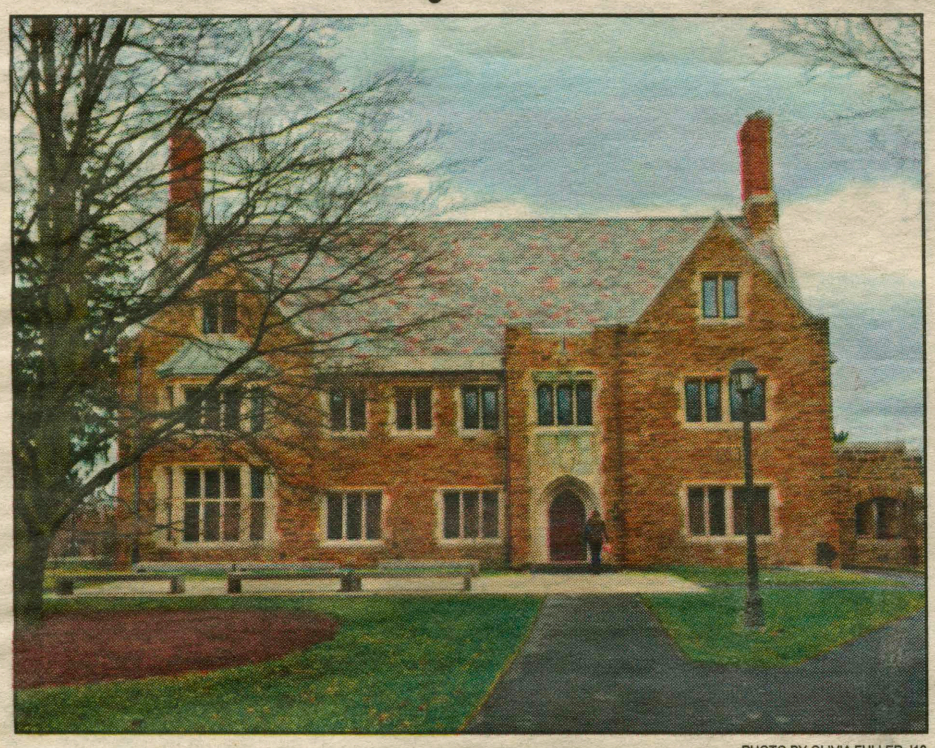


PHOTO BY OLIVIA FULLER '19

by Emily Eisler '17
Staff Writer

On Friday, Mar. 25, hundreds of high school seniors were accepted to the Hamilton College class of 2020. They join those admitted through early decision I and II to form a total of 1,317 admitted students for next year.

Vice President and Dean of Admission and Financial Aid Monica Inzer stated, "The admission office was thrilled with the quality, depth and diversity of this year's pool [of applicants]. As usual, the hardest part of our job was figuring out who not to take."

Overall, this is one of the College's most impressive applicant pools, and the numbers from this year's process display how selective Hamilton is becoming. The acceptance rate this year matched last year's record-low of 25 percent. One reason for this is the increase in demand we see in rising numbers of applications over the years. The College received 5,230 applications this year, just short of last year's record of 5,434.

Overall, Hamilton's applications are on an upward trend; this year's number is about 1,000 more than a decade ago, and Hamilton is attracting some impressive academic talent. The statistics reflect incredibly competitive standardized test scores and grade point averages among those accepted. The average SAT score for those admitted was 1429 for critical reading and math and 715 for writing. The average ACT was 32. The admitted class also comes from 45 states and 35 countries, and the gender ratio for this class is 45 to 55 men to women.

The admission office realizes these students will have a number of great options for college next year, so they are now focused on making sure the admitted students know that Hamilton is the best school for them. They are working on this by increasing their outreach initiatives during the next month to get the word out about the College. These include overnight visits, mailings, campus and residence hall tours, off-campus receptions for admitted students, podcasts, targeted emails and admitted students information sessions.

*see **Admissions**, page 3*

Class & Charter Day concert will be announced in *The Spectator* next week.

Franklin replaces Carter as department chair of Africana Studies

by Kirsty Warren '18
News Editor

Effective Friday Mar. 11, Professor A. Todd Franklin was appointed chair of the Africana Studies department. Franklin, jointly appointed to the Philosophy and Africana Studies departments, aims to "stabilize and restructure the department."

The goal of "stabilization" relates to the roles and responsibilities of all faculty and associated support staff, while the goal of "restructuring" relates specifically to the curriculum. The first step, Franklin said, will be to review the department in full.

"Although I've contributed courses to the department and I've been involved to some degree for a number of years, I haven't been involved in the day to day running of the department itself and the structuring of the curriculum. I haven't been involved with the shepherding of students through the concentration," Franklin said. "So all of this is relatively new to me and my first task is to strive to review all of the different processes in place with respect to how students are entering into the concentration and what their experience is.

"When students are aware that a department isn't functioning as well as it might, it's time to intervene. " — Associate Dean of Faculty Sam Pellman

"To this end, we have augmented the number of actively participating faculty, and as chair, I'm currently in the process of reviewing all aspects of the department and its curriculum in preparation for collective consideration later this summer," Franklin said.

Africana Studies major Porshai Rivera '16 said that the change gives her hope that next semester, first-years "who have an interest in the department will have that interest sustained by a department chair who listens to their concerns."

According to Associate Dean of Faculty Sam Pellman, changes in leadership were precipitated by concerns about how relationships among faculty members facilitated the work of the department. Pellman went on to say that he and Dean of Faculty Patrick Reynolds concluded it was time to "bring in some fresh perspective" when students expressed concerns.

"When students are aware that a department isn't functioning as well as it might, it's time to intervene. That is really something that compels action," Pellman said.

Terri Moise '17 said that he believes changes in the Africana Studies department were made to improve the relationship the department has with students. "I have high hopes for Professor Franklin, and wait to see how he moves forward with revitalizing and redefining the Africana Studies department. As both a rising senior and an Africana Studies major, I can only see this change as positively impacting my experience and hope that going forward, the concerns of current and future majors and minors will be heard," Moise said.

"Professor Franklin has been very open and transparent with us, which I appreciate. I feel like I can hold him accountable for what he says," Rivera said, adding that she fell in love with Africana Studies after taking a class called "Performing Blackness" as a first-year. "It was not your traditional methodology class; it felt like a family and it was very progressive. As my time here has gone on, that progressiveness has died away.

"Although students love the classes they're taking, their growth is being stifled by professors who don't connect with students and don't see the need to connect with students," Rivera said.

Arthur Williams '16 spoke of a resistance, or "push-back," within the department against professors who are more progressive or radical in their pedagogy, and a lack of respect for the academic validity of their subject matter. Rivera said that as a student, she experienced that push-back when she had difficulty getting approval for a thesis proposal on black feminist thought.

"This is not to say traditional study isn't valuable, but at a small liberal arts college like Hamilton, especially in a humanities department, it only makes sense to have discussion-based classes," Rivera said. "That's something that makes Africana Studies so valuable. Because it keeps up to date with popular education, it transcends time."

"For many people taking these classes, [subjects of study] are lived experiences," Williams said. "And with some methods of teaching, students are being shut down and their thoughts aren't being valued."

"Because we're dealing with such historically depressing, for lack of a better word, subject matter, it's important in a department like Africana Studies to have the space to say 'this is how this reading made me feel and now let's think critically about why I'm feeling this way,'" Rivera said. "Professor Franklin will set the tone for the professors who are doing that to continue doing that."

*see **Africana Studies**, page 3*

Trans* Workshop takes on topics such as binaries, pronouns and bathrooms

by Rylee Carrillo-Wagner '19
Staff Writer

On Tuesday a handful of students met in KJ for the second trans* training of the school year. Seeing as last semester's training was so successful, and that there were more questions than time available, the conversation began on an excited note from the start.

The training was led by Davey Shlasko, founder of Think Again, a business that specializes in training and consultation around various social justice topics. Shlasko had two presentations, one for students and another one for faculty.

Prior Tuesday, Shlasko had collected questions from Hamilton students and formatted the presentation after those questions and concerns. Shlasko divided the talk into four sections: Global Gender Cultures, The Medical Model, Pronouns and Political Tensions.

"All cultures have a gender system," began Shlasko, but not all of these gender systems are the same. Some parts of the world used to have three or four different genders, but because of colonization, the European gender system — including gender binaries— initially disrupted the systems in different cultures, labeling the unknown as sodomy.

At this point, some cultures have tried to bring back their original styles, although they face the challenge of digging up history, as well as the lasting effects of colonization and the medical model suggesting that there is something clinically wrong if one does not identify within the European gender binary.

As a consequence, bringing back old traditions proves extremely challenging and many continually receive backlash for doing so. After laying down this history, Shlasko then showed photographs of various gender groups that are not present in America's binary system, including Hijras from India and two-spirited Native Americans. Caroline Kreidberg '17 commented, "I liked that Davey talked about the gender binary construction as product of western European colonialism and how different gender constructions exist in different locations and contexts."

Shlasko spent less time on the medical model, but quickly explained that for years being trans* was considered a medical disorder. While this is no longer the case, in order to receive any transitional surgeries, one is required to first get two physiatrists to verify that they can consent to the operations. So while plenty of people can chose to get cosmetic procedures like nose jobs, if it is related to transitioning, one needs two physiatrists to sign off on the same operation. Shlasko used a comic illustration to reiterate the point. In the comic, one person asks, "how many trans* people does it take to change a light bulb?" The response? "Only one, but they have to live for a year in the dark to be completely, absolutely sure it needs changing and have the confirming opinions of two electricians, at least one with a PhD."

The conversation surrounding pronouns was quick. Shlasko used an analogy towards the end of the discussion that helped summarize the conversation. "Messing up pronouns is like having your zipper down:" you fix yourself, but then move on as fast as possible. You've embarrassed yourself; it was your mistake.

The conversation then shifted to focus on political tensions, at the forefront of which was the new, controversial North Carolina bathroom bill. In retaliation, many trans* people have posted photos of themselves online asking if you would want them in the girls bathroom (the photo featuring a large man with a full-grown beard) or the boys room (conversely these photos feature small, innocent-looking girls).

The tension that this creates within the trans* community is rather substantial, however, and Shlasko explains through another comic, "the argument that trans women 'look wrong' in the men's room because they look stereotypically feminine perpetuates the idea that trans people's rights and safety only matter when they 'pass.'" Furthermore, that bill enacted many other controversial decisions, such as making it illegal for towns to raise the minimum wage above the state minimum wage, and people can no longer go to court on account of being discriminated against (and that does not only include being discriminated against for being trans*—it covers all forms of discrimination).

> **"How many trans people does it take to change a light bulb? Only one, but they have to live for a year in the dark to be completely, absolutely sure it needs changing and have the confirming opinions of two electricians, at least one with a PhD."**
> **— Davey Schlasko**

"So why is the media just focusing on the bathrooms?" asks Shlasko. Maybe, it's because that can be turned into a huge drama, "a distraction" to ignore the other issues—while the bathroom decision is significant, most conversation surrounding is targeted at a cisgender audience, suggesting that whom one shares a bathroom with is more scandalous or important than the other laws created.

The list of things to talk about that day were unending and many participants hoped for future workshops. But the round of applause at the end spoke to the student's appreciation for the time Shlasko spent presenting that day, and for the new knowledge that they held.

AMHERST BATES BOWDOIN COLBY CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

NESCAC NEWS

by Dillon Kelly '16
News Editor

Tufts University recieves grant for biological research

Tufts University received a $10 million grant from Microsoft co-founder Paul G. Allen to fund research for the life sciences. Tufts developmental biologist Michael Levin will lead research at the Allen Discovery Center, focusing on whate role bioelectrical signaling plays in orchestrating how cells communicate and repair anatomical shapes. Levin states that this specific research is "the key to most problems in biomedicine." According to *Tufts Now*, the Allen Discovery Center will be at the forefront of the life sciences and will allow Levin to invest the time and energy to make more breakthroughs in the field.

Middlebury College joins group of colleges helping Syrian refugees

Middlebury College has recently joined a group of colleges that the Institute of International Education designated to aid Syrian refugees. Jeff Cason, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the schools, hopes that Middlebury's presence in the Middle East will be an additional asset to the Syrian refugees. He explained, "We can connect students to organizations in Jordan that can help with meeting the many and carried needs of the refugees." Middlebury has a partnership with the University of Jordan.

Acclaimed playwright and actor to speak at Amherst College

Playwright, professor, and actor Anna Deavere Smith will lead a program titled "Snapshots: Portraits of a World in Transition." For the past few years, Smith has been traveling the country and speaking to many people from all walks of life. At the lecture, she will perform portrayals of the people she interviewed, hoping to recreate and capture all these people's differing views.

MIDDLEBURY TRINITY TUFTS WESLEYAN WILLIAMS

Africana Studies to "stabilize and restructure," responding to criticism

*from **Franklin**, page 1*

Rivera and Williams agreed that they would like to see more resources allocated to the Africana Studies department and a full tenured faculty.

"In my four years here there have been three or four visiting Africana Studies professors who have come and gone who loved the students and whom the students loved," said Williams, who is a Hispanic Studies major and Africana Studies minor. "They were really involved inside and outside of the classroom, their research was scholarly and up-to-par, and they were either not offered a position or felt the need to leave."

According to Rivera and Williams, notable visiting professors include Professor Reynaldo Ortiz, Dr. Crystal Endsley and Dr. Courtney Thompson. "They are still very involved with students' lives after they leave—I just spoke on the phone to Dr. Thompson today, and Dr. Endsley comes back to run the Speak-Easy [open mic event]—and that seems like exactly the kinds of professors the school should want," Rivera said.

Professors Mark Cryer of the Theatre Department and Vincent Odamtten of Department of Literature and Creative Writing, are also newly appointed to the Africana Studies Department. Cryer, Franklin and Odamtten have all taught courses which were cross-listed with Africana Studies for many years.

"I am very happy to be appointed to the Africana Studies Department, since it is a return home, so to speak," Odamtten said. "I was one of the founding members of Africana Studies when it was a Program and acted as its Director for some ten years. Now that it is a Department, I'm glad to more actively participate in helping it realize its full potential."

When asked how he thinks the Africana Studies department should move forward, Cryer emphasized the need for "refocusing on the students, their needs and growth."

While he acknowledged the intersections of Africana Studies with many other departments, Williams said he does not think cross-listing does enough to address concerns. "The reason they're cross-listing is that there's a lack of bodies, there are not enough full-time professors within the department. Cross-listing doesn't solve the issues we've been talking about. What will help solve those problems is bringing permanent professors to this campus," he said. Williams was one of several students interviewed for this article concerned about the fact that Intro to Africana Studies will not be offered next semester, since Professor Westmaas, who usually teaches the course, will be on leave. "You've had all these professors who come and go who were capable of teaching it but they're not here," Williams said.

Franklin said that there will be fall availability for first and second years in the form of a 100-level first year course taught by Professor Donald Carter and that his "Race, Gender and Culture" course will also provide first and second years with an introduction to Africana Studies.

Vanessa Galvez '18, an Africana Studies and World Politics double major, expressed concern that the Africana Studies department struggles to "bring in" students and focus on their interests. Like Rivera and Williams, she does not think enough resources or professors are allocated to the department.

Galvez credited the professors she has had in the department, Professors Reynaldo Ortiz and Nigel Westmaas, for "really caring about students, encouraging them and being creative. Their doors are always open and that's crucial to getting students to become Africana Studies majors."

"If it seems like I'm being critical it's because I really care about the department and I want it to be better," Galvez said. "I see it losing students who are interested, and classes dwindling. And that's so sad because it's so important to have diverse classes and I just want Africana to grow."

Natasha Espinosa '18, a sociology major, has taken five Africana Studies classes thus far but is not pursuing a minor in the department. "The last two classes I'd need for the requirement are taught by professors I'm not comfortable taking classes with. If those classes were taught by different professors I would probably be a minor," she said.

Espinosa said she is frustrated because she loves the department so much. Her experience with the classes she has taken has been very meaningful. "It hurts when I see a department that could be so great suffer because it doesn't have the cohesion it needs to be a really successful department," she said. "There are things in Africana Studies you don't learn anywhere else. I love Africana Studies or I wouldn't take so many classes, but there are internal problems I'm happy are finally getting attention."

Franklin replaces Professor Donald Carter as chair. Carter was unable to be reached for comment.

"People before us expressed these problems and freshman now are having the same problems," Williams said. "We're seniors and when we were freshman, seniors were telling us these same things."

Despite the frustrations she has experienced, Rivera said she absolutely encourages and pushes first years to take classes within the department. "The Hamilton motto is 'know thyself,' I wouldn't know myself the way that I do if it weren't for Africana Studies," she said.

"The primary goal in all of this is to promote and protect the overall quality and intellectual integrity of the student experience," Franklin said of the "ongoing and collaborative" process of improving the department.

Hamilton class of 2020 accepted

*from **Acceptance,** page 1*

This year, Hamilton is also working more on social media, using the hashtag "#hamilton20" to connect directly with the new class. The College's time to shine will of course be the Accepted Student Open House, happening this year on April 18. Most current students have either attended or since observed this day and the accompanying campus wide event showing prospective students what Hamilton has to offer. Inzer also mentioned that the admission office is "always grateful for all in our community who come together that day to show their Hamilton pride and help our cause."

The target size for the class of 2020 is 480, with 20 transfers coming in this fall as well as 40 jans in the spring. The final numbers will be confirmed after deposits are due on May 1, National Candidate's Reply Date.

CLASS OF 2020 BY THE NUMBERS

5,230 applied

1,317 admitted

1429 average SAT math/reading

715 average SAT writing

32 average ACT score

Accepted students hail from 45 states and 35 countries

45/55 ratio of men to women

Target class size: 480

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency and draw attention to students' dangerous and destructive behaviors, *The Spectator* will publish a selection of the previous weekend's incidents each Thursday. The entire report is available in the online edition of *The Spectator.* Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* will use their discretion regarding what is published.

Monday, March 21, 2016
No Reportable Incidents

Tuesday, March 22, 2016
1:48AM Trouble Alarm – Ferguson House
4:02PM MVA – Green Apple Way

Wednesday, March 23, 2016
No Reportable Incidents

Thursday, March 24, 2016
3:50 PM Fire Drills – Academic Halls

Friday, March 25, 2016
2:59AM Suspicious Incident – Burke Library
8:50AM Fire Drills – Academic Halls
6:30PM Complaint – Babbitt Hall

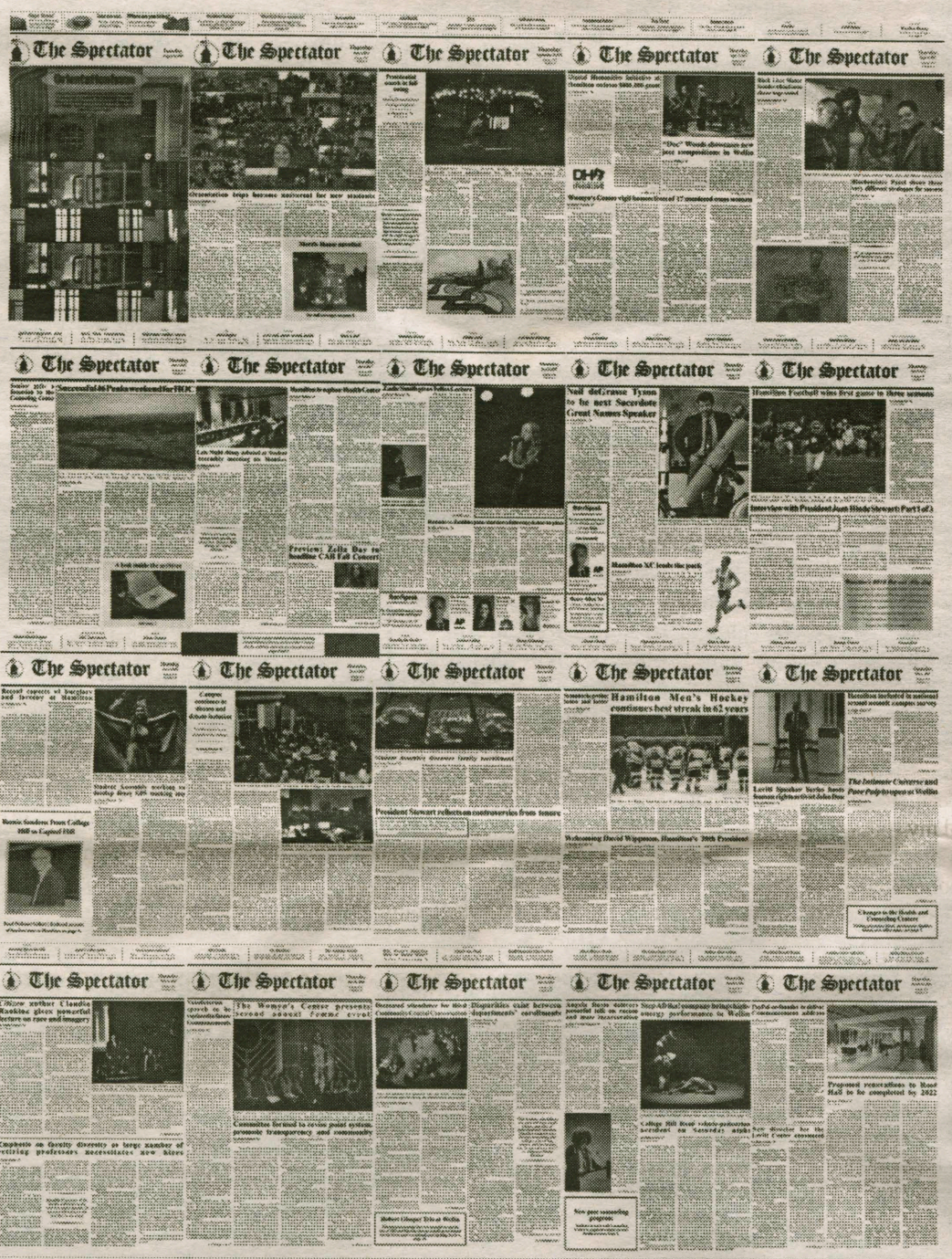
Saturday, March 26, 2016
11:35AM Mechanical Issue – Ferguson House
11:52PM Unauthorized Party – Eells House

Sunday, March 27, 2016
12:55AM Noise Complaint – Babbitt Hall
1:37AM Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
2:20AM Noise/Marijuana Complaint – Dunham Hall

EDITORIAL

This is my final issue as Editor-in-Chief. I'd like to thank the staff, some 59 writers, editors and photographers who do this because they care about what a college newspaper is capable of. I hope that as editor, I've been able to help show that capacity for curiosity, honesty and critique. For me, it's been a tangle of late nights, of scrambling, but—now and then—of success. I'm proud of what we've published, and I've seen the paper expand in its ambition and its achievements. Here's to many more!

Your editor,
Lucas Phillips '16



Letter to the Editor:

I commend Jake Altman-DeSole for an excellent summary of my presentation, "Albert Murray and the Blues Idiom Worldview," in the Feb. 25, 2016 issue of *The Spectator.* He did a fine job, with one exception.

Unfortunately, he mis-characterizes a passing reference I made in the lecture portion of the presentation.

In The Hero and the Blues, Murray critiques Richard Wright's Native Son not only for the manner in which he generalized about black American behavior via the Bigger Thomas character, but because of its "assumption about the nature of human nature as a whole: People who are forced to live in subhuman conditions develop subhuman traits; they react subhumanly and become bad through no fault of their own."

Mr. Altman-DeSole attributed the point above to me, however the quote from Murray continues: "That many do is cause for alarm, of course, but the generalization is fallacious and misleading nonetheless. Most do not! Many, by one means or another maintain a level of conduct which is quite as normal as that of people in normal circumstances--and so achieve another glory for humanity."

Albert Murray's blues idiom hero doesn't exhibit subhuman traits, he or she overcomes harsh social conditions with elegance, excellence, eloquence, and improvisational skill. That's a more accurate depiction of the blues idiom worldview, a model not for pity or condescension but, rather, for admiration and emulation.

All best,

Greg Thomas '85

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Letters to the Editor Policy

The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

About Us

The Hamilton College Spectator, *publication number USPS 612-840, is published weekly by the Hamilton College Student Media Board while classes are in session. For more information e-mail spec@hamilton.edu. Our offices are located on the second floor of the Sadove Student Center. The deadline for advertisements is Monday the week of publication. For further information, please e-mail specads@hamilton.edu.*

Letter to the Editor

Open Questions: The Silence over Labor at Hamilton College

Dear Editor,

There is a palpable, hushed feature to the daily academic buzz on College Hill Road. As far back as I can recall, very little has been publicly discussed or done about College employees who toil daily for us on campus. There are town hall meetings about important issues like Diversity, alcohol abuse, Title IX requirements and so on, but I don't believe I have ever heard about a town hall meeting called to discuss the work situations of those who assist us on a daily basis.

In my own experience with life on the Hill, many of us faculty stay within our lane, worrying about issues like travel reimbursements, classroom chalk and technology, library book deliveries, photocopying, organizing tedious meetings, our campus mail and other relatively trite areas of campus life.

So, where is our concern for the people who make the campus alive before and after we wake up? For workers who clean our offices, trim the lawns, plough the snow, make our buildings work and feed us? What is the state of employees' health insurance? Relationships with bosses in senior administration and academic staff and faculty chairs? Are there glaring imbalances in salaries and promotions? How are those centrally involved in assisting departmental offices, namely Academic Office Assistants (AOAs), doing in general across the campus and how do they manage with some faculty prone to prima donna expectations? I understand that a section of the staff on campus are unionized, but what about other employees?

What about the hard-working citizens and immigrants who serve us, students and faculty, in the Diner, Commons and KJ? What about the workers in uniform at Campus Safety? Is their job satisfaction high? How are all these working class employees and their families faring behind their exterior smiles and efforts to placate and spruce up the campus environment every single day and night? How do they feed their children and their families? When faculty and students go on break, what happens to the part-time employees whose lives are connected to the activity on campus? Are there effective arenas of redress for the vulnerable?

It is paradoxical that we teach courses on the economy, social, political, cultural and other worldly subjects, but do little to connect the content of theoretical or economic discussion in those disciplines to the people immediately and generally supporting our intellectual work and teaching through their own hard work.

Out of empathy and consideration should we not be asking more open questions of the President, Deans, Human Resources and general administration about the state of workers at Hamilton?

Doubtless some employees are happy with the employment environment on the Hill. Others would not dare rock the figurative boat. Still others are extremely fearful (and from my experience, there is a general unease from staff in publicly discussing employment situations) about speaking openly about labor issues. But this should not deter us faculty and students from asking questions, extending empathy and providing concrete and active support when necessary.

We need transformative solidarity that extends to the pockets and conditions of the working staff and employees who assist us on a daily basis.

Yours sincerely,

Nigel Westmaas
Associate Professor of Africana Studies

Why spring break Instagrams are the worst

by Elias Clough '17
Opinion Contributor

PHOTO BY STEPHANIE RICKER

The Men's rowing team on the water in Oak Ridge, TN.

Instagram ruined my spring break. Everyone has probably heard from rowers about how awful rowing can be, but it was not the workouts, early mornings or the torn-up hands that got to me; my happiness and athletic drive was sapped by sunset shots over Punta Cana. My ability to shoulder the workload that rowing demands has always come from a sense of solidarity with my teammates as all of us share the same burden. Within the team bubble, I have found motivation to embrace two weeks of two-a-days. Instagram, as is its insidious design, dragged my focus away from the team and onto the enviable, heavily edited spring breaks of my friends.

With tropical paradises acting as a foil to my rowing experience in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, the weather became colder, the workouts longer and I became less willing to meet my coach's high expectations. Every day, between practices, I scrolled through a myriad of Coronas on the beach, coral reefs and girls in bikinis holding up starfish to the camera and felt resentment toward my sport.

Circumstances in Tennessee only compounded my frustration. When an air conditioning unit on my floor at the Comfort Inn caught fire at 5 am and the whole building had to be evacuated, my friends on Instagram were getting wasted in the Bahamas. When my hamstrings gave out after a hellish sprint workout, they were learning to surf. I tried to delete my social media, force my mind back into the team bubble, but I was addicted. I appealed to reason; I knew that all the pictures I was seeing were enhanced to be more vibrant and appealing, but I was still imagining everyone else's break through an X Pro II filter.

My experience, in comparison, was gray and exhausting. My mind was constantly somewhere outside of the boat, and my performance suffered. I was demoted from the first boat, which only increased my frustration with rowing. I blamed the sport for its high standards and level of commitment, but I realize, in hindsight, that it was my own fault for obsessing over the pictures that were passing through my feeds. My trip could never have measured up to the perfect "reality" that Instagram teased me with. Even knowing this, however, does not immediately take away all the resentment that I feel towards rowing. Pulling my mind away from other people's experiences and back into the team bubble, where I can compete, is a difficult and ongoing process. Through my experience as an athlete over spring break, I learned that all of the smiling pictures on Instagram can be a highly effective means of making people miserable.

Thumbs Up	Thumbs Down	Who Cares?
Beekeeping Club: Because the life of bees is far more secret than the life of any member of Chi Psi.	**Beekeeping Club: For those girls who are incredibly confident in their breast size.**	**Beekeeping Club: As seniors with only six weeks left, we're really bzzzzzzzy!**
Beekeeping Club: Perfect for those who have rarely been able to surpass the B-range on analytical papers. Member max GPA: 3.04.	**Beekeeping Club: Did you know that you can live in a room the size of a beehive this summer in Brooklyn for $2,000 a month not including utilities?**	**Beekeeping Club: We'd never write nine jokes about this club.**
Beekeeping Club: Because sometimes you need to find a place besides The Pub to get a buzz.	**Beekeeping Club: Who let the bees out? The Bee-Ha men!**	**Beekeeping Club: April Fools!!!!!!!!!!**

by Jessye McGarry '16 and Carrie Solomon '16

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

Spring breaking point: learning to fight back against my depression

by Caroline Harrington '16
Opinion Editor

Spring break: the time for visits with friends, expensive trips to tropical places and countless Instagram pictures of smiling people having fun. While a boozy beach was not my intended vacation destination—I was looking forward to spending two weeks training with the rowing team in scenic Tennessee—I certainly did not anticipate where I actually ended up.

Thursday night before the team was to leave, I found myself alone in an ambulance on my way to the worst place imaginable: St. Elizabeth's Hospital. Do not get me wrong; they try their best. But, I was not seen for over 14 hours and was locked in a concrete box with my phone confiscated, because that is what mental health treatment means in this country. So after this experience, on Tuesday, Mar. 15 I checked into a partial program for depression and anxiety at Metrowest Medical Center in Natick, MA.

Let's back up. I have been suffering from depression for a little over four years. Recently I have been struggling through a difficult relapse along with the development of depression-inducing anxiety. Though this may seem like a little too much information, I think it is important to try to be honest about my experiences. One in five adults suffer from mental health issues, diagnosed or not. My condition, so to speak, is not abnormal or rare, but I have found that accepting my disease and being honest about it is rare and often leads to criticism. There are a lot of key players in my story with loud voices trying to express what is best for me. In this process, I was shut out of the conversation—until I got to treatment.

During my eight school-like days in the partial program, I was constantly surrounded by people who have similar but often more difficult mental and emotional struggles than I do. At first I felt like I was trapped in a looney bin, in a place where I certainly did not belong. But what I found from these people who have enough difficulties of their own was a compassion and empathy that I had never felt. I loved going to treatment. I loved the people I interacted with, and I loved how they treated me like just another person. They supported me like nobody else ever had. They listened to me, and I felt heard.

Throughout treatment I learned myriad coping mechanisms and techniques to address and control my thought processes and emotions. I learned how to have diplomatic discussions, stay grounded in reality and modify distorted thoughts. What I find incredibly interesting is that all that I have discovered is completely applicable to the daily lives of many, regardless of mental state. As a person whose personal and mental life is now broadcasted, I hope I can help educate people further, not only about mental health and the stigma against it, but about ways to deal with situations more effectively.

What I struggle with now is the process of reintegration into daily life. Unlike many of the peers I met in treatment, I was excited and ready to return to reality, not fearful. But since my hospitalization, I have found that my process of a return to normalcy has been blocked and challenged. I am understanding of the fact that this hesitation comes from a place of concern and care, but I find it difficult to accept the lack of trust my peers place in me. My friends in treatment, clinicians and therapists placed their trust in me. How could I lose this trust from everyone else? More importantly, how could I lose my voice and my ability to be heard?

Ultimately it comes from a place of stigma. It is no secret that mental health is somewhat of a taboo, ignored and pushed under the rug until it is convenient to pull it out. People often think that sufferers of depression, anxiety or any other illness are incapable of functioning normally. Clearly that is untrue, as 20 percent of the population suffer and most of those people do not publicize their conditions and suffer silently.

So, is publicized mental illness something worthy of a loss of trust? Is my openness about my struggles and emotions making people uneasy and allowing them to put me under a scope? Frankly, I am not sure how to answer that question, as there are a lot of pieces at play. All I know is that the obstacles put in place by peers and administrative figures out of care and concern add an unnecessary challenge to the improvement of my mental state. Here I am, fighting for my voice, fighting to stand up for my wellbeing and still feeling like I am shouting into a void.

Since being back, I have been able to make my voice heard in a constructive way. I am gaining back my voice, step by step. Where do I go from here? I suppose, I just keep moving forward. I am thankful for the support I have received and hopefully I can prove myself worthy of being trusted. More than that, I hope that in sharing my experiences openly, I can maybe impact or help someone else who is struggling. So if you feel like you are struggling alone with no idea what to do, just know that you at least have me in your court and do not be scared to reach out.

Although I did not get the spring break I would have liked, at the very least I got what I needed: a stronger mind and a louder voice.

Commercialism vs. the "Noise" I listen to

by Houghton Yonge '18
Opinion Contributor

"That's just awful!" "How can you listen to that garbage all the time?" "I can't believe you actually like this." No, I'm not a Ted Cruz supporter, but I am a big fan of heavy metal. If you do not already know who I am, I'm that dude that plays metal for an hour on the radio station, usually at inconvenient times such as at 9 in the morning (sorry!) or midnight on Thirsty Thursdays as people are stumbling across Martin's Way. While I definitely got more reactions of surprise throughout high school from my friend group, I still run into some people who criticize me for liking metal and for having "horrible taste" in music. I find the latter to be a particularly interesting claim. What exactly constitutes having a "good" taste in music?

Usually when people comment on the kind of music you like, they are assessing it in relation to how similar it is to what they like to listen to, that one person you know who actually stuck with a classical instrument from elementary school probably won't click musically with your aggressively vegan, folk-loving hipster friend. But all of us who think we have the best possible taste in music conveniently ignore the simple truth: for the most part, "taste" is subjective. I say "for the most part" because pop music is an interesting exception to the rule. This is especially true when examining how the music industry has become more efficient at producing this music.

A study by the Spanish National Research Council found that over the past five years, pop music has gotten progressively louder while its range of sounds has gotten less diverse. It is easy to accuse all songs in one genre of sounding the exact same, but in the case of pop music, there is scientific evidence to support this claim. Furthermore, as Derek Thompson of *The Atlantic* notes, the biggest record labels in recent years have invested heavily in data analysis tools in order to predict what next song or artist will be the most successful based on people's listening habits from streaming services and visits to bands' Wikipedia pages. Having received this information, the record companies then invest more resources into promoting artists that are most likely to be popular. This behavior becomes part of a cycle that perpetuates itself; record companies release music based on an aggregate opinion of what would be most popular, people devour the new artist, which is then reflected through social media likes, streams, page hits and positions on the Billboard 100 that the record companies then digest again and create the same songs.

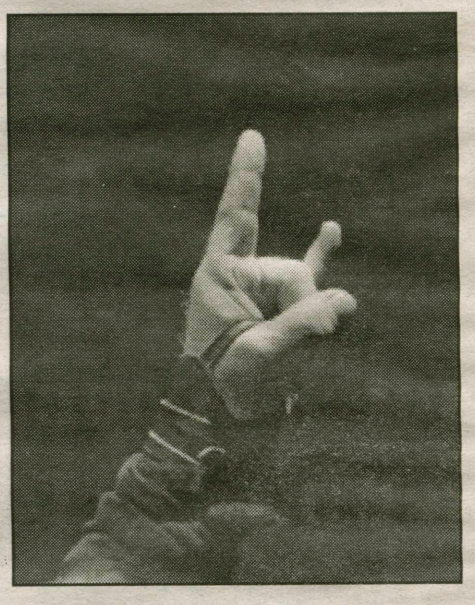
All of this is to say that a big reason pop music—and other widely popular genres like indie and hip-hop—are liked is because their music is engineered by the record companies to be that way. Some artists, such as Foster the People and Joey Bada$$, may try to creatively break the well-defined commercial molds of their respected genres, but they will never become as widely appreciated as their simpler counterparts. These molds are slowly but surely becoming more stringent. Record labels are constantly refining sounds that will likely sell the best, resulting in an identifiable "sameness" in our music.

So, why do I like metal? It definitely helped give me strength when I was trying to find my way during my awkward middle school years, but even now I still enjoy it for lots of reasons.

I like its aggressive and tough sound—a much-needed shot in the arm in today's watered-down, flat-sounding rock world. As someone who has been playing guitar for over seven years now, I always appreciate the challenge and ferocity learning complicated metal songs and solos bring to each time I practice. It is also really energetic and great for getting you pumped up to work.

There's definitely a part of all of us that likes Ariana Grande during a quick abs session, but nothing will get you running up a massive hill faster than Amon Amarth growling about Vikings and Norse gods as thunderous guitars and drums rage on in the background. And while there is some truth to the critique that metal is only about violence, it goes mostly unfounded. There are also bands who write about grieving over loved ones in distress, the mysteries of space, the ethics of technological advancements and even Egyptian mythology, all of which I find to be more interesting and profound topics than partying, sex or whatever Pitbull's new album is about. A big reason I like metal because it is so different from what's on the radio, not in spite of its being different.

There are always going to be people who question why metal is my favorite genre. I know my classmate who said she loved "T-Swizzle" (Taylor Swift…yeah, I don't get that name either) will give me a tough time about what I like if I ever bring it up. But that's fine. I don't mind and I can always chirp back — that's what keeps life interesting. I love the fact that I am one of WHCL's Fantastic Four, standing out from the endless indie landscape of the weekly radio schedule. You can call me an oddball, but at least I'm not a sheep.



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by Cesar Renero '17
Features Contributor

First, let me get the "everyone should go abroad" rant over with: Hamilton is a claustrophobically frigid prison; you should go off-campus at least once. Right, done. Spain!

If you, like me, have the attention capacity of a myopic goldfish, Madrid is the place for you. Bustling streets at 5 a.m. on a Tuesday, brilliant theatre at half the price of a C@B Syracuse play (or less), unabashedly outspoken and immediately friendly people, the list could go on for ages. Madrid is the capital of Spain, and feels every bit like it. Spain's best restaurants, biggest companies and the crabby bureaucratic leviathan the Spanish call "government" all call this city home.

Oh, and be prepared to speak Spanish. The thickly-accented madrileños are taught by the same people who gave the Dowager Countess the gift of English, and their attempts to speak it, while well-intentioned, usually result in an endless barrage of what and qué. Although the younger generation fares much better (thank you, American imperialism!), the amount of jokes, bar-staff banter, sassy side-comments and football gossip you'll miss if your español is nada will be like seeing the Wizard of Oz in black and white.

Despite being a world-class city, Madrid hasn't lost touch with its little town quaintness. Every neighbourhood is full of cozy spots that are little communities of their own, and when you walk down cobblestone streets gleaming under an Iberian sunset, you get the sense that everyone in Madrid is only a couple of friends away from knowing each other. Having lived in Mexico for 18 years, I can see where we got our laugh-a-lot, don't-worry-too-much attitude. And Catholicism, obviously.

I came to Spain in search of two things: to know more about where a big part of my culture comes from and to explore the pioneering political happenings of Spain first-hand (these guys don't have ONE, but TWO popular parties, and they're not racist homophobes!). Being able to shout at the politicians on the TV with the Spanish over tapas, and then comparing them to the s***bags we have in Mexico, not to mention the amount of Latin Americans I've met, has given me these two things, but Madrid gave me more. If the preceding paragraphs haven't already shown it… I'm in love with Madrid.

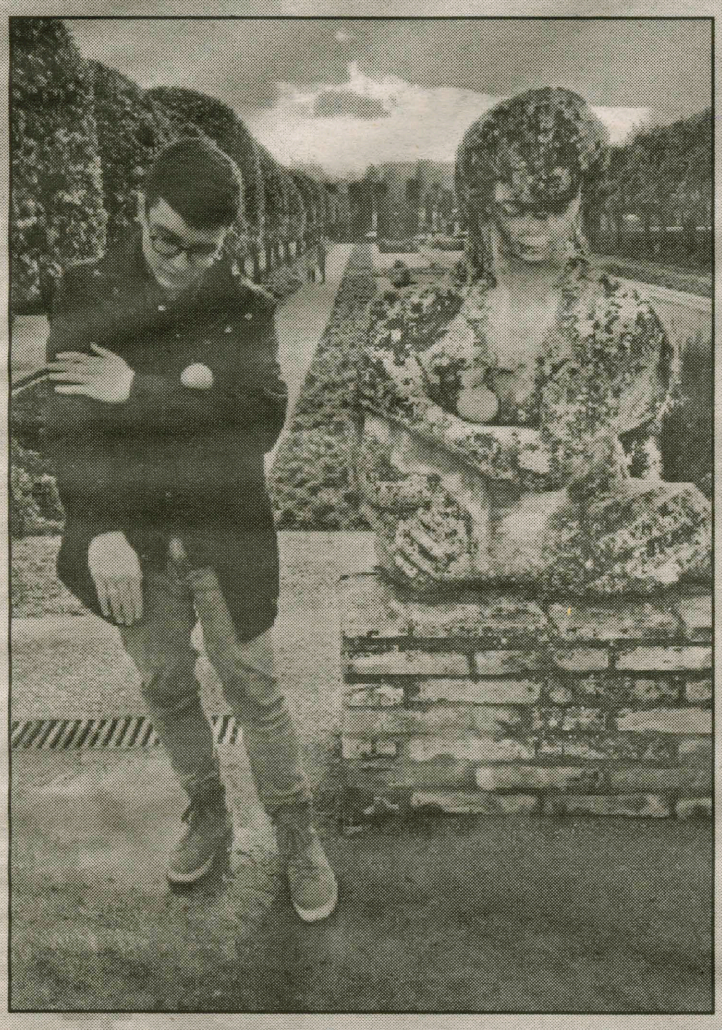
It's obviously very easy to wax lyrical about study abroad. That's part of the reason why we do it. We want the independence, the foreign culture, the sensible drinking laws, the immense value of being in a country that isn't your home. We want to feel and do and know things we've maybe read about but never encountered first-hand and, after trying them, we want to try stuff we've never heard about even more. It's a time to get lost someplace strange, meet ten nationalities in a day and then get into bed mostly unscathed, knowing more about yourself and even more about the world outside your head.

After hopping borders on weekend trips, you'll hate all the times you were too lazy to catch the Jitney. It's like you've officially begun living.

But living has a darker side, and the Ankara and Brussels and Lahore attacks last week were a reminder of that. Having flown over Belgium three times during the week of the attacks made me thank my lucky stars Brussels wasn't on my spring break itinerary. But somehow it made me feel closer to the world. My Spanish host family has visited most of the cities that have at some point fallen victim to terrorist attacks, and they themselves have had to deal with decades of ETA-sponsored car bombs, not to mention the 2004 Madrid train bombing that cost almost two-hundred lives and injured more than ten times that number. It's not just that Hamilton is a bubble, but living in Europe helps you understand not only American Exceptionalism, but also American Isolationism. I'm not calling either thing good nor bad, but when dealing with very tough problems in a very complicated world, having another perspective to count on goes a very long way.

So yeah, study abroad is great and it lives up to all the hype. Yes, it absolutely should be mandatory (like not mandatory mandatory, but something like way-more-valuable-than-swimtest-why-are-we-even-comparing-the-two mandatory). And if the Science Center profs can deal with alligators and thermite and potentially-lethal radioactivity, they can certainly give their kids a semester or two off to pursue their dreams, learn a new language, potentially meet the love of their life and let them have one of the most formative, encouraging, enjoyable and kick-a** semesters of their college careers.

PHOTOS BY CESAR RENERO '17



Baby bootie business is booming

by Cilly Geranios '19
Staff Writer

One of the greatest questions after finishing college: what happens now? For many the answer is the beginning of a single career. For Kirkland College alumna Michelle Facos, the answer to that question has changed, shifted, compromised and continues to morph with every new adventure. "That's one of the great things—you can always kind of reinvent yourself," said Facos.

Recently, she has decided to expand her plans to include the launch of a luxury infant bootie line called MooseBooties. After years as a professor, and before that a paralegal, Facos has practice with altering her path to fit life's plan.

A junior in high school, Facos applied to attend Kirkland, narrowing her search to schools that would allow her to attend without the final year of high school English. "I just suddenly decided I was bored with high school and wanted to go to college." Finally settling in, for a while, as a professor of art history at Indiana University–Bloomington, Facos continues to live her life in search of adventure and knowledge. "The striving and seeking and not yielding probably already existed but were certainly strengthened by my experience with professors at Kirkland and Hamilton."

A dual citizen of Sweden and the U.S., Facos travels often to Sweden, where her latest adventure began, nearly 10 years ago. Interested in the variety of handcrafts on display at the annual Sami trade fair in Jokkmokk, Facos saw her first moose leather handcrafted goods. "I was really intrigued by [the leather] because it was really soft and sturdy I thought they would make very good infant booties."

Interested in testing her hypothesis, Facos asked her husband's daughter, a skilled seamstress, to create some prototype models of the booties. "I then gave them to my friends who had babies and… their friends wanted to know where to get the booties…so I thought it would be great manufacturing them." Unfortunately, manufacturing moose leather would turn out to be one of the struggles of creating moose booties. Facos said, "Moose leather is inherently stretchy so it's never been used for anything."

The process for tanning moose leather in order to limit the amount of stretch was not developed until the 1990s in Finland. The handcrafted goods made of moose leather at the Sami trade fair were innovative, recent additions. Facos said, "That's another aspect of it that we thought was really kind of cool. The only place where the leather is tanned now is in a small village in northern Finland."

Coming from a family of entrepreneurs—both her grandmother and great-grandmother founded their own businesses—Facos was unafraid of the entrepreneurial adventure. Before getting started, she would need some guidance for the technical aspects of beginning a clothing company. Luckily, a few years later she spent time teaching abroad in Shanghai, introducing her to her future business partner Felix Backhaus, then a senior at Georgetown studying in Shanghai. "We formed a partnership with my Swedish husband, Per Nordahl, and started trying to figure out how to make this happen."

From a trade fair in Sweden to Shanghai, MooseBooties began to take form. Searching for manufacturers to skillfully manipulate the leather, Facos again found her solution while teaching abroad. Teaching in Warsaw, Facos met up with friends of a friend. Given the new contact opportunity, Facos asked of leather sewing companies capable of the job. Luckily, one of the new friends directed her to some companies. "We first encountered about five or six, but it was kind of a big fish eat little fish situation. Now there's only one."

A recent technology, tanning moose leather correctly wasn't a booming business. As Facos said, "company is kind of an exaggeration—it's more of a cottage creation thing." Armed with manufacturing plans and a business partner, Facos was all set to make what was once a dream, launched in a trade fair, into a reality. After nearly 10 years of semi-planning, the MooseBooties website launched in February of this year. "We're selling direct to consumer only over the internet at this point." With such direct contact to her customers, Facos herself remains very involved with the company. "I do the blog…I'm involved in design and production and new products and so forth are sort of my main responsibilities."

Keeping a close eye over her merchandise, Facos has ensured safety for the infants wearing her products. Facos said, "All the materials we use have been tested by Oeko-tex …[because] babies are always touching things and putting them in their mouth…[and] we are very concerned with infant health."

Offering one size with twelve models, the online store is slowly beginning to see more and more traffic. As far as plans for the future, Facos said, " We're just going to stick with this and see where it takes us…Maybe think a bit later about new products in addition to the sheepskin as well as think about launching in Europe."

As for now, Facos remains busy maintaining her role in the company and doing all she can to stay encouraged and motivated. "When you get discouraged and you see these parents happy and babies happy it makes me feel like…I'm doing the right thing…something that's making other people happy."

This week 25 years ago: Faculty Challenges Evaluations

by Bill Stern
Contributing Writer

At its March meeting, the Faculty approved a motionexpressing a "lack of confidence" in the college's system of evaluating professors. The Faculty also discussed "ideas regarding general education, focusing on enabling students to find connections across disciplines, according to the minutes, and listened to reports from Eugene Tobin, Dean of the Faculty, and President Payne.

Presently, students are asked at the end of every semester to complete course evaluation forms. By an overwhelming majority, the Faculty agreed to a motion which would "discontinue the use of the current college-wide numerical teaching evaluation form."

Unless a new form is agreed upon, students will no longer have the opportunity to evaluate their professors. The current form asks students to list the "strengths" and "weaknesses" of the courses in which they are enrolled and gives students the chance to make suggestions for improvement.

Students are also asked to rate their professors' "teaching effectiveness" and "ability to arouse and sustain interest." The Faculty's Committee on Appointments, the Dean of the Faculty, and the College President use the averaged numerical results in tenure and promotion decisions but not salary raises, explained Tobin.

Recently, Maureen Miller, Assistant Professor of History, and Laura Winsky, Instructor in Government, on behalf of ten untenured faculty members, introduced the motion to abolish the current form. Both faculty members said they were not opposed to student course evaluations, but Miller explained that "everyone [on the faculty] recognizes that the current form is inadequate...and the only way to force the Faculty to adopt a better form [is] to abolish the present one."

Miller added that any form the Faculty finally agrees upon should be "constructive, valid and fair." She complained that the current form is "statistically ridiculous" and Winsky concurred. The questions asked by the current form are unclear and subject to interpretation, said Winsky, who also stated that many students do not understand the purpose of the current form and its importance in tenure and promotion decisions.

An improved form should pose "pointed, precise and valid survey questions," and "acknowledge the complexity of classroom interaction," explained Miller and Winsky. They said asking students to discuss their numerical rankings would be an improvement, and they suggested a change in the way the forms are analyzed.

Instead of simply averaging the results, which is the current method, Miller and Winsky proposed that a distribution of the results be calculated which would include the standard deviation, a statistical measure of the range of scores. The Faculty last discussed teaching evaluations in April of 1988, when it created an ad hoc committee to develop a new form.

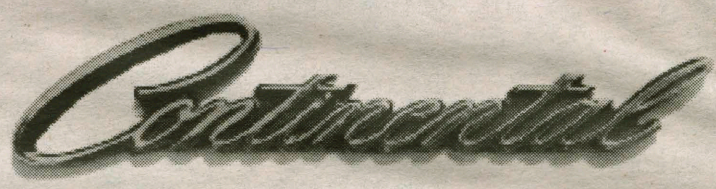
David Paris, Professor of Government, who served on that committee, said in a later interview that although the committee came up with an alternative form, there was too much disagreement among faculty members to bring the issue to a vote.

Since the Faculty passed Miller and Winsky's motion without designating a new form, "it's possible" that there will be no course evaluations this Spring, explained Paris. The current form was last voted on in 1977, when it was retained by one vote.

"The Committee on Appointments will bring a new and revised form to the Faculty for its review at the April Faculty meeting," said Tobin in an interview following the meeting.

The Faculty intends to develop a new form, and Tobin is "confident that the faculty will be able to approve a new form, and that the form will go into operation at the end of the semester."

FEATURES INVESTIGATES:
Tracing a Hamilton tradition



If you've seen this Lincoln Continental logo hanging on someone's door, e-mail us at *spec@hamilton.edu.*

Ancora! A very average hodgepodge

by Sophia Gaulkin '17
FEATURES EDITOR

The Ancora! restaurant sits at a wonderful location right on Genesee St. in downtown Utica, just next door to the historic Stanley Theater—a Baroque cinema house from the 1920s. Its clientele largely relies on its nearness to the movie theater, but convenience often does not translate to quality. Cognizant of the dependent relationship between the restaurant and the theater, the owner, Dan Loconti, describes the restaurant on its website as "the ideal compliment [sic] to any evening."

Instantly, this raised the question: Why is it only an accessory to a night out and not the main event? On one hand, the restaurant itself is spacious with high ceilings filled with a custom-designed bar, literally referred to as a "tower bar." There are two main rooms that create a rustic atmosphere, complete with an open kitchen, which is almost always an indicator of thoughtful, honest cooking.

The waitstaff was knowledgeable and timely, maintaining the delicate balance between being slightly too bothersome or slightly too inattentive. There was something, lacking, though, that cannot be compensated for by the location and physical space inside.

This self-proclaimed Italian restaurant located in downtown Utica offers a menu of Mediterranean-style dishes that are certainly not limited to Italy. The sign outside reads: "Crepes, Bar, Tapas." In fact, their crêpe selection is one of their main selling points, despite its undeniably French genre. Tapas, too, is obviously Spanish cuisine. How the creators decided on Italian as the description is almost comical. On the menu, there are a few entrées with seemingly Italian heritage, but for the most part, it consists of the classic blend of American dishes you can find in most culturally-unspecified restaurants: pan-seared New York strip, filet mignon, and bistro-style chicken, among other Spanish plates like paella.

This confusing inconsistency would not have carried much weight at all, but the food was exactly average. It certainly was not bad, but it was nothing to get excited about, either. Especially considering that the prices of entrées range from $14-29 dollars, it borders on disappointing.

Although I would not recommend it for a full meal despite generally positive online reviews, it certainly exceeds expectations for crêpes. First of all, these delicious *French* thin pancakes are extremely rare in all of Oneida county, not just the local area. And, as far as crêpes go, while Ancora! lacks the pure simplicity of a Parisian crêpe stand, they truly go the extra mile to accomodate the preferences of their American customers—crêpes are filled with any variation of ice cream, whipped cream, fruits, granola, caramel, peanut butter, graham crackers and so much more. This is the only reason to make the trip there.

Ancora! is open for lunch Monday-Saturday from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. and for dinner Monday-Thursday from 5-9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 5-11 p.m. They can be reached at (315)-724-4815. Reservations are welcome but not necessary.

PHOTOS BY SOPHIA GAULKIN '17

From left to right: Sautéed shrimp with calamari, banana fosters crêpe, seared salmon, chocolate crêpe and steamed mussels.

From Where I Sit:
Hamilton's International Perspectives

by Isabella Bossa '18
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

During the three years I have spent in the U.S. as an international student, I have come to realize there are many misconceptions about countries that lie outside of North America and Europe. One of those countries is Colombia, the country where I am from and where I grew up. I have decided to address some of the most common misconceptions that I have heard about Colombia in hopes of clarifying them and giving a clearer and truer picture of what my country is actually like.

Let us start with the name. The country is Colombia with *o*, and not Columbia. The difference is only one letter, some might argue, but how would you like it if every time you went to Colombia people spelled your country *United Stetes of America*?

The country has so much to offer, from the incredible diversity of flora and fauna to the exquisite traditional dishes to paradisiac beaches, yet most people associate Colombia only with its infamous drug trafficking problems. To make things worse, notorious kingpins like Pablo Escobar and popular television series such as Narcos have further spread the country's unfavorable image.

There is no point in denying that narcotrafico has had a significant negative impact in Colombia, but the government's battle against drugs has been highly effective and successful, as the production of cocaine has dropped significantly in the past years.

Yet Colombia's reputation as a drug country remains so prominent in people's minds that I was once asked if cocaine was sold in Colombian supermarkets. Just for the record, the answer is no. Drugs in Colombia are illegal, and in spite of the country's role as a major cocaine producer, Colombians—in general—are not drug consumers.

Given Colombia's location in the northwest of South America and near the equator, some people assume the whole country is basically a tropical forest. This conception could not be further from reality.

While Colombia does have tropical rainforests, it also has deserts, mountains, plains, and islands. The country is home to unique geographical features which include a desert right next to the ocean in the northernmost part of the country, a mud volcano popular because of its alleged healing properties and Cano Cristales, a red, yellow, blue, green and black river often referred to as the most beautiful river in the world. The country's challenging landscape makes traveling in Colombia truly an adventure of a lifetime.

The notion that all Latin American countries are virtually the same is a misconception that oversimplifies the complexity of the individual countries. While some characteristics, such as the language (Spanish) and the religion (Catholicism), are indeed common to most of Central and South America, each country is unique. People in the U.S. often seem shocked when I tell them I do not like spicy food, and the question that follows is a variety of "but isn't Colombian food spicy?" To answer the question, no, it is not, and just because Mexican food is spicy does not mean all Latin American food is.

Some of my friends at Augustana University were also surprised because I did not know anything about the Cinco de Mayo celebration (which is not celebrated in Colombia) or when I did not know slang from other Latin American countries. Imagine if someone from Alabama and someone from Alaska were expected to eat, act, speak, and dress the same - do you get my point?

Lastly, I will address the common belief that Colombia is dangerous. While there are some revolutionary and violent groups, these people are located in very specific parts of the country. Furthermore, Colombia is undergoing a peace process between the main guerrilla group—the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and the government. After the agreement is signed, the FARC will put down their weapons, and violence levels in the country are expected to reduce significantly.

Undoubtedly, urban crime rates in Colombia are high and there are dangerous areas in some cities, but every major city in the world has violent zones. As long as you are careful and stay away from unsafe areas, you will be fine.

Colombia is by no means a perfect country—no country is—but it is certainly much better than what most people imagine. Today Medellin, once famous for its high crime rates, is one of the country's main cultural hubs and is considered the most innovative city in the world and the "Fashion Capital of Latin America"; Barranquilla, the hometown of Shakira and Sofia Vergara, hosts the most colorful carnival in the planet; Bogota, the capital of the country, is a modern, cosmopolitan city and every year hosts the biggest theater festival in the world—the Festival Iberoamericano de Teatro. Colombia, which also houses more than 10 percent of the world's biodiversity, is the second most bio-diverse country in the planet, and was crowned as the happiest country by a WIN/Gallup International Association survey.

So hopefully after reading this you have a better picture of what Colombia really is like, and next time you hear about it drugs and violence are not the first thing to come to your mind, and instead, you associate Colombia with what it really offers: spectacular landscapes, flourishing modern cities, an immense biodiversity, a variety of music, dances, and national celebrations, and—I might be biased here—the best food in the world.

Oil and Water: Great literature and the big screen

by Alex Witonsky '17
Staff Writer

Being the adventures of a young man whose principal interests are rape, ultra-violence and Beethoven.
STANLEY KUBRICK'S
A CLOCKWORK ORANGE

PHOTO BY GODS OF EGYPT (LEFT) AND CLOCKWORK ORANGE (RIGHT), LICENSED UNDER A CC 2.0 ATTRIBUTION

Witonsky '17 argues film adaptations, like *Gods of Egypt* and *Clockwork Orange*, tend to fall short of the original novels' artistic achievment.

To bestow American appellations on a non-American...

The late author Gabriel Garcia Marquez was both a Houdini and a Hendrix of the writing world: a technical virtuoso whose creations lit his name—and the hearts & heads of his readers—on fire. His patent version of the magical-realist aesthetic came at a time when the only competitors in the field were L. Ron Hubbard and Hugh Hefner.

Yet, it could be argued that Marquez, despite collecting the writing credits for some 20 films, was no Hitchcock. In fact, he was reluctant to have his own masterworks appear on the silver screen. For three years he staved off Scott Steindorff, famous producer and Hollywood "Bookman" for the rights to *Love in the Time of Cholera*, and only relented because of a cancer diagnosis that he thought would jeopardize his family's finances.

When the movie came out in 2007, it was cursed by the dominant reviewers: *Time Magazine* assigned it a "D" rating, saying it was "a serious contender [for] the worst movie ever made from a great novel." The *L.A. Times*—in a review that could have just as easily been about the latest attempt at remaking *The Great Gatsby* (2013)—described the film as "plodding, tone-deaf, overripe, overheated Oscar-baiting," certainly a long-shot from Thomas Pynchon's *Times* review of the book in which he declared it a "shining and heartbreaking novel."

But what about the big one by Marquez? On adapting *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, Marquez said to producer Harvey Weinstein that if Weinstein and director Giuseppe Tornatore wanted the rights; "we must film the entire book, but only release one chapter – two minutes long – each year, for 100 years." With Marquez's death in 2014, *One Hundred Years of Solitude* describes not the title of a film-to-be, but rather the future of the book's film rights.

For readers in general, film adaptions fail to rival, no less exceed, a great book's degree of artistic achievement. Why? Is there something about each medium that prevents book-magic from transmogrifying into movie-magic? What is adaptation and which books are adapted? What's a great book, anyway? Mostly speculation follows below.

When applying for an editorial position at Hamilton College's magazine des beaux arts, *Red Weather*, I was asked to give up the names of a few of my favorite contemporary authors. I named Cormac McCarthy, which apparently puts me on par with the literary sensibilities of Professor James Franco, who some two years ago released twenty excruciating minutes of test footage for *Blood Meridian* depicting tight-lipped cowboys riding through Yosemite on their (quite) "tragic mounts."

In fairness, this is pretty much all that happens in the novel, so why doesn't it work on screen? Is it that Franco simply doesn't have the goods, as perhaps indicated during his Faulkner Period, which saw the lackluster *As I Lay Dying* (2013) and *The Sound and the Fury* (2014)? Or, perhaps cinema and literature are simply incompatible? One may even hazard to say that the source material is trash to begin with and begets turgid film.

Rather than answer these question directly, I'll turn to *Blood Meridian's* oldest spiritual predecessor, John Milton's *Paradise Lost*. More *Transformers* in Talaria and less epic meditation on the Bible, science and why it's hard to be happy, the film adaptation was almost entirely shot in motion-capture, featuring a fire-breathing worm and hitting the silver screen in February under the new title *Gods of Egypt*.

According to director Alex Proyas:,"the [Gods of Egypt] story is not dissimilar to that of the Judeo-Christian parable." Manohla Dargis over at the *New York Times* writes, "If *Gods of Egypt* were any worse, it might be a masterpiece." Interesting observations both...

According to Proyas's above statement, he adapted Milton's *Paradise Lost* into *Gods of Egypt* by first considering the original's ease of ability to become a Hollywood movie. The literature must be able to fit the Hollywood archetype.

Under this model, filmmakers salvaged from the book a plot line, thereby recruiting an important, though not essential, part of the book to create the movie's meaning. Plot is the primary component to undergo transformation in adaptations. This partially explains the box-office success of Stephen King's works. His novels (which are not well written) have great plots—great Novels For Hollywood in that they prioritize clear narrative order over aesthetic.

By contrast, great books' density of content and lack of a straightforward or crucial plot in many great literary works (on the level of plot alone, *Anna Karenina* is a daytime soap-opera) are two of the biggest factors preventing successful adaptation. It is a novel's perceived simplicity, which invites an adaption. I assume this is what attracted Paul Thomas Anderson to adapting Thomas Pynchon's *Inherent Vice*, one of the author's easier books.

So down with the director, up with the auteur and save the Great Book-Movie?

Regardless of artistic intent, even directors like Kubrick have often failed to present the source material in a way that is pleasing to readers. This is especially evident in Kubrick's weird take on *A Clockwork Orange* (1970), a film in which the most imagination was spent constructing the set of The Korova Milk Bar, where characters drink from lactating statuettas before gearing up for rape and murder.

One wonders if part of the ostentation in the Korova set—and in taking on the troubling themes inherent in A Clockwork Orange in the first place—is the residue left over from a clunky go at *Lolita* in 1962, a kind of violent machismo asserted through a willingness to take on "great literature." Anyways, even King himself was quite unhappy with *The Shining* (1980): "The book is hot, and the movie is cold; the book ends in fire, and the movie in ice."

Simply plotted or dense, done by blockbuster directors or auteurs, derived from great literature or not adaptations, which are unfortunately compared to their pre-op state, films fail to carry the same signifcance as the books.

Instead, successful adaptations use the grammar available to filmmakers to make great films, which just so happen to tell a similar story and share a title with the original work. A few shining examples that come to mind are Joe Wright's *Pride and Prejudice* (2005), Ang Lee's *Sense and Sensibility* (1995) and Sally Potter's *Orlando* (1992).

'What are adaptations but a type of homage? What is homage but ritual to aging idols? Film-adaptations are the orphaned bête noire of books, a category worshipping the pain of their existence while propagating all the old sins.' Instead, those who claim membership with the demimonde may wish to identify film as the site of a rhythm of constant renewal and purified power, the rhythm to which all reels flicker.

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Hispanic film series closes with powerful inside look at the treatment of women with recycled cinema

by Kyandreia Jones '19
STAFF WRITER

This past Tuesday, March 29, the Hispanic Studies department concluded its film series with *Con la Pata Quebrada* (2014).

Directed by Diego Galán, the film examines how Spanish cinema portrayed Spanish women in the 1930s. Galán uses footage from other films to show women's role in the social sphere from the early 20th century to now.

The 180 pieces of footage offer viewers an inside look at the conditions in which women lived now almost 100 years ago. However, the fragments serve a greater function. Besides revealing the poor way in which men treated women, the film reveals cinema's hand in the issue.

In *Con la Pata Quebrada* (Barefoot in the Kitchen), cinema perpetuates the idea that women are second class citizens. In Spanish cinema, men badmouth, cheat and strike women without penalty or shame. Granted, during the time of the film the same scenes existed in the houses of many. Yet these conditions struggled to change because movies portrayed them as acceptable and normal.

Worse, children and teenagers who attended the movie theater saw these images. They then carried their preconceived notions about women into future generations. This ensured the creation of more women who felt that they must be beautiful, quiet and domesticated. Further, this continued the development of men who believed that if a woman did not meet the aforementioned requirements, he must teach her with physical or verbal abuse.

Galán's decision to show film fragments in which women spoke about themselves and other women with the same, or more, malice than their male counterparts strengthened the film. As the audience witnesses the mistreatment of women, it would be easy to become furious at the men in the film. However, Galán's choice to have women echo the men's sentiments complicates the issue.

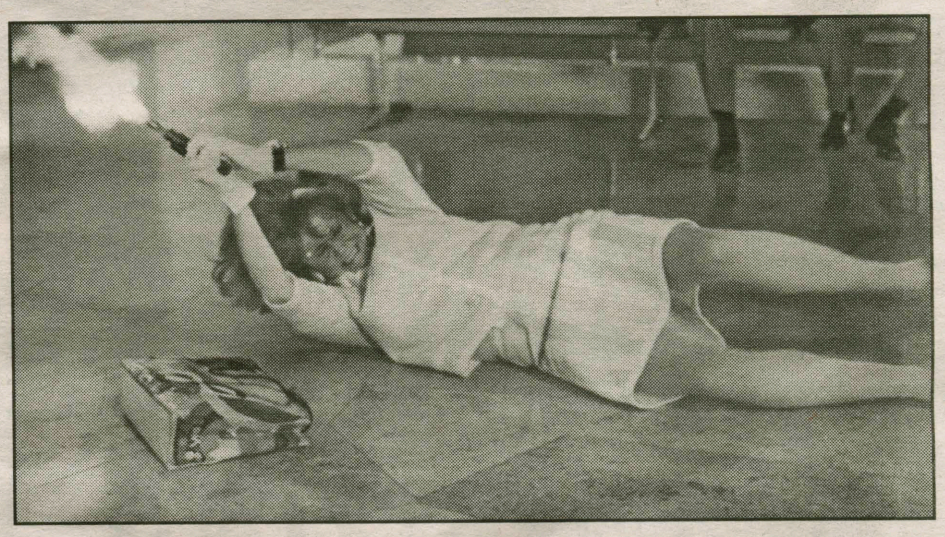
Instead of a disagreement between sexes, Galán demonstrates that the issue at hand remains a social dilemma. Some women stand in the way of other women who aim to define their own social sphere. Galán communicates this by showing women who are not necessarily the enemies of their own cause but a people conditioned to reject change. Women were so trained to remain in their domesticated spheres that they shied away from the man's world.

The topic of *Con la Pata Quebrada* engaged the audience. Members of the audience were able to relate to the commentaries on gender norms, religion and relationships and how all-affecting endeavors such as war alter the lives of a country's citizens.

However, I found the structure of the film problematic. The film fragments bombard viewers; meanwhile, the narrator (Carlos Hipólito) talked about the fragment's relation to a specific point of the discussion. The rapid images and clips become difficult to digest as all the events happen at once. I would have liked to have time to react to the themes themselves, rather than to multiple pieces of footage. It would have been interesting to delve deeper into select films regarding the social and political evolution of women.

I would recommend *Con la Pata Quebrada* to those interested in women's studies and history. Moreover, individuals interested in Hispanic studies and sociology would be interested. I would also recommend the film to anyone who has read Margaret Atwood's *Handmaid's Tale*.

On the Hispanic department's film series as a whole, I would recommend attending future film series. Each film takes on a unique perspective of a Spanish speaking country with care, detail and honesty. Although some films in the series are better than others, they all have messages that are worth a few hours of one's time.



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***Con la Pata Quebrada* uses 180 clips from Spanish films of the 1930s to examine cinema's portrayal of women.**

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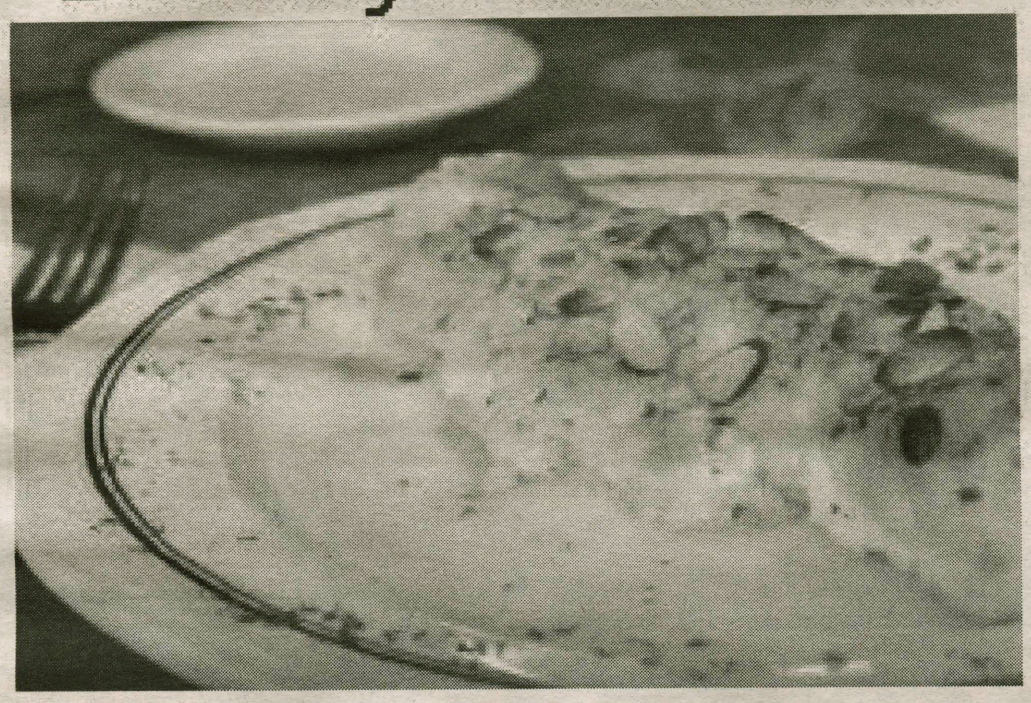

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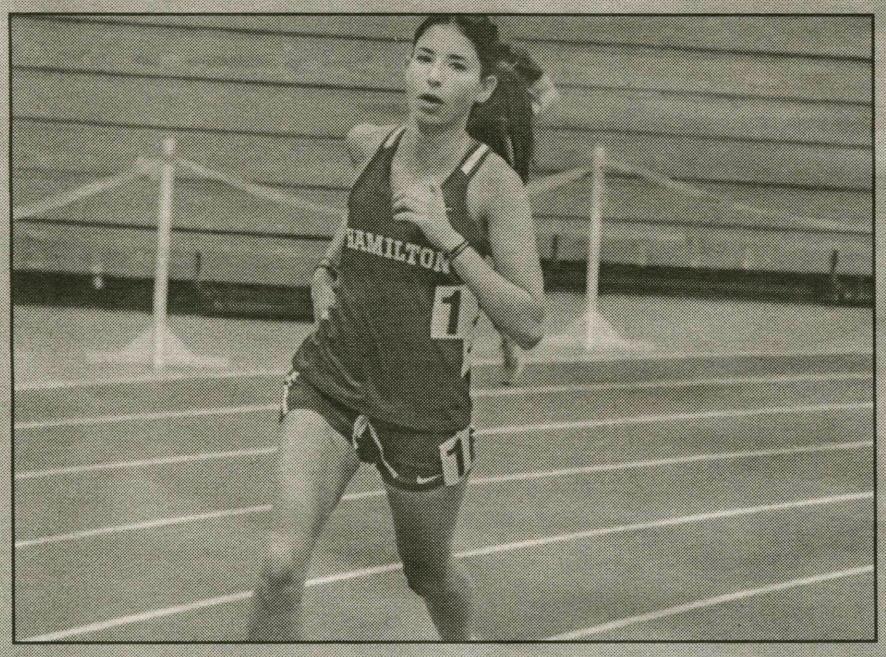
Spring Break Highlights



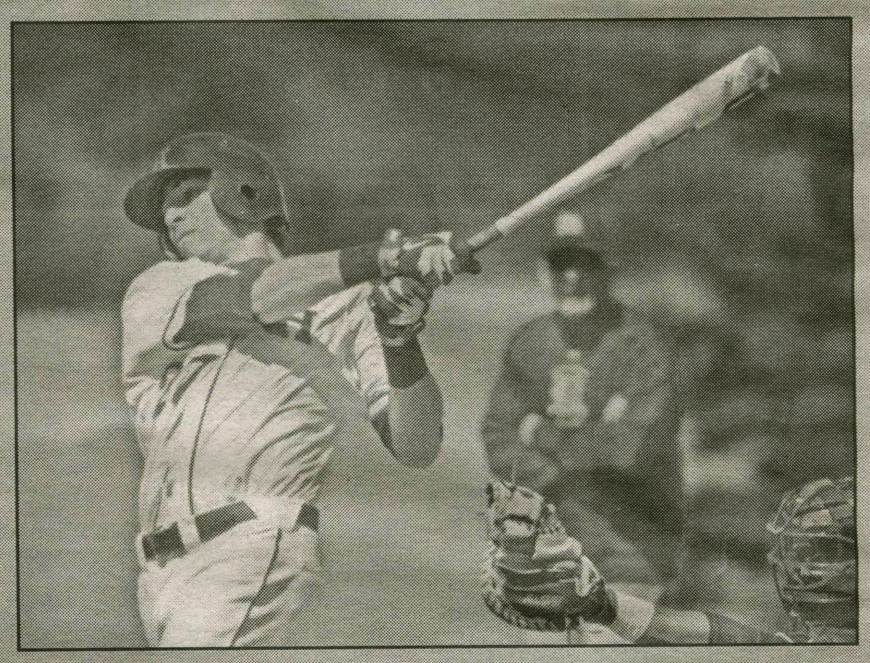
PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIKE DOHERTY

Track & Field

The men's and women's track and field teams opened the outdoor season with a home meet on Mar. 26. Adam Pfander '16 led the men's team, setting a new program record in the 10,000 meter run with a time of 31:07.20. In the sprints, Eli Saucier '18 dominated the competition, winning three events (two individual and one relay). Saucier won the 100 meter dash with a time of 11.13, the 200 meter dash in 22.43, and ran the second leg of the winning 4 by 400 meter relay featuring Ryan Sedwick '19, Nate Somes '16, and Zach Pilson '16. The women's team also had an impressive debut at home, with five event winners and seven second place finishes. Hanna Jerome '18 was first in the 1,500-meter run with a time of 4:57.05.

Golf

Libbie Warner '19 set a women's program record in the team's dual match against St. Lawrence at Duran Golf Club in Viera, Fla. on Mar. 25. Warner shot a 1-under par 71, leading the Continentals to a team score of 336. But while the women's team narrowly fell to St. Lawrence (336-330), the men's team won their dual match by a score of 307-329. Three players for Hamilton—Joe Tigani '18, Bayard Geeslin '16 and Jeremy Benjamin '19—broke 80 for the Continentals. Tigani's 1-under par 71 led the way and tied his career-best score. Both teams are off until the second week of April, when the women play in the Vassar Invitational and the men compete in Skidmore's Tim Brown Invitational.



Rowing

The women's Varsity 8 boat is ranked 10th in this week's Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association Division III Top 15 coaches poll. At the team's most recent event in the 34th Memorial Murphy Cup Regatta in Cherry Hill, N.J., the varsity 8 team notched a fourth-place finish in their heat. The field included 16 Division I boats and two other top-five Division III boats. The men finished 11th out of 16 in the Murphy Cup Regatta, with entries in the Varsity 8, the Junior Varsity 8 and the Novice 4. Both teams had trained in Tennessee for two weeks prior to the races, and will return to the water for a regatta hosted by Tufts University on Sat., April 2

Baseball

The baseball team returned from spring break in Florida with a 9-5 overall record including two double-header sweeps against Lawrence University and Allegheny College. Outfielders Kenny Collins '17 and Ryan Wolfsberg '17 excelled at the plate in non-conference play, posting batting averages above .400 through the first 14 games of the season. Collins delivered the highlight play of the season for the Continentals so far, hitting a two-run walk-off home run in the seventh inning to beat University of Minnesota-Morris. Dan DePaoli '18 has been excellent on the mound this season for Hamilton, sporting a record of 2-1 with a 2.60 earned run average. DePaoli has allowed just 10 hits in 17.1 innings pitched while tallying 14 strikeouts.

Gozdz '16 breaks program hits record

*from **Softball** page 16*

run average (ERA) and going 2-2 in five starts thus far. Zoe Singer '18 is Hamilton's other starter and currently boasts a 3.78 ERA and a team-high four wins.

The Continentals have gotten a much needed respite since returning home, but will see the schedule pick up again starting this weekend, with the final 23 games coming in a 30-day stretch. Unlike with other sports, the NESCAC divides its softball league into two five-team divisions, with the division winners and runners-up each reaching the postseason. Hamilton is paired with Amherst, Middlebury, Wesleyan and Williams in the Western division, and will play a three-game series against each of those teams over the upcoming month.

Last season, the Continentals finished 5-7 in conference play and landed third in the West, missing out on the playoffs by just a single game to Middlebury. The conference win total was Hamilton's highest since joining the NESCAC, and the closest the Continentals had come to reaching the conference postseason since 2002, when they also finished in third. After a few torturously barren seasons from 2009 to 2012, in which Hamilton went 0-48 in conference play, the program has finally clawed its way to respectability.

Now, a postseason berth is the next important benchmark on the team's agenda. It is unclear how the level of competition from Florida will translate to the conference slate. Hamilton's two most noteworthy games were against SUNY Cortland, the 18th-ranked team in Division III, and Bowdoin, a fellow NESCAC opponent from the East division. The Continentals dropped both games, with the loss to the Polar Bears marking the team's lone defeat in the last seven games.

Most of the upcoming West division series promises to present a difficult challenge. The Continentals were the only team to finish the non-conference portion of the schedule with a losing overall record. Williams and Middlebury, who have earned the division's two playoff spots each of the past two seasons, combined to post a 15-6 record in their opening stretch of the regular season.

Consequently, the first conference series, a three-game road trip to Wesleyan from Apr. 1-2, represents an important opportunity for Hamilton to generate a much-needed fast start. Wesleyan has finished below the Continentals in the West standings each of the past two seasons, placing Hamilton in the rare position of being favored. If Hamilton can take two out of three or even sweep the series, a top-two division finish and playoff berth would appear far more realistic.

W. tennis ranked 40th nationally

*from **Tennis** page 16*

University and Hollins University. The Continentals swept the day, dominating Hollins 9-0 and George Fox by a final tally of 7-2. Schoning and Tang continued their impressive spring break performances, picking up four wins each in the two contests.

Hamilton continued its March hot streak, extending the winning streak to four matches with an assertive 7-2 win over Scranton University in its final match in Orlando. Weeks capped off a strong performance in Florida with a win in straight sets, improving her overall season record to 12-1, the best for any Hamilton player. The doubles team of Tang and Schoning improved their doubles record to 5-1 with another 8-1 win before returning to the Northeast. The Continentals finished the Florida trip with a record of 4-1, bringing their overall record to 9-2 and remaining 40th in the nation in the latest ITA poll.

The Continentals proved their immense spring break success was not a fluke, sailing to a 9-0 white wash of the Oneonta Red Dragons at the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House on Mar. 26. Hamilton displayed its strength in singles, winning all six matches in straight sets. The matches highligthed the abilities of two players, Schoning and Emily Chan '16, who did not drop a game in their respective singles matches. Schoning currently sits at fourth in program history with 46 singles victories, and is just two victories away from second place. The dominant victory increased the Continentals' winning streak to five and their overall record to 10-2.

The next two matches represent the final tests before the Continentals enter NESCAC competition. The Continentals aim to remain among the nation's top teams with victories against William Smith on Mar. 30 and RIT on Apr. 2. NESCAC competition begins for Hamilton with an away match Apr. 9 against the second best team in the nation, Bowdoin. The following weekend, the Continentals will be pitted against another NESCAC titan, Wesleyan, who is currently ranked eighth in the most recent ITA national poll.

The Continentals seek to prove themselves as one of the top teams in the NESCAC, one of the toughest conferences with five of the top 10 teams in the nation, and have the opportunity to do so in the opening weeks of conference play. Hoping to remain in the conversation as one of the best teams in the country, the Continentals must topple conference foes as well as non-conference opponents with continued dominant play.

W. lax hits road vs. 13th-ranked Bates

	1	2	T
#11 Amherst	**6**	**4**	**10**
#10 Hamilton	2	4	6

> McCarthy (HAM): 2 goals, 1 ast., 4 GBs

*from **Lacrosse**, page 16*

with" as two factors motivating the team to be successful.

On the offensive side of the field, midfielder Morgan Fletcher '17 leads the team with 19 goals, followed by midfielders Casey File '17 and Philbrick with 11. Caroline McCarthy '16, who plays attack, leads in assists with 13, followed by fellow senior Margaret Gabriel '16 with seven and Fletcher with five, with the three leaders in points being Fletcher, McCarthy and Gabriel respectively. The defense is anchored by Withiam, Gaela Dennison-Leonard '16, Maddie Fitzpatrick '18 and Annie Pooley '16. Hannah Burrall '19 and Hannah Rubin '17 have split time in goal, combining for a save percentage of 51.9 percent and a goals against average of 6.50, which has outpaced Hamilton's opponents' 42.9 percent save percentage and 11.00 goals against average.

While the team is off to an impressive start, the NESCAC is one of Division III's top conferences in women's lacrosse, boasting eight teams in the national top 20. With a 2-2 conference record, the Continentals find themselves tied for just sixth in the conference. The coaches and players are confident that they can continue to improve.

In looking for areas of improvement, Coach Kloidt observed, "We have lost focus when the game becomes difficult. We haven't experienced this often but it has happened in two key conference matches that resulted in a loss." She also added, "We are a very talented team but we need to improve our ability to stay focused under stress in order to shift momentum." Similarly, Withiam noted, "We need to stay committed to our motto 'next play', which motivates us to play the game without fear of making mistakes…it is crucial that we don't let our frustration get the best of us but continue to attack and shift the momentum of the game in our favor."

Where Kloidt and Withiam stressed resilience and the ability to maintain a high level of play at critical points, Philbrick added that the beginning of the game is crucial to the Continentals' success, saying, "I think we need to work on taking control of the game in the first half. It's easy to get complacent and not show up the first half, but working on starting off strong from the very first minute will definitely help lead us to even more success in the future."

The team has laid a solid foundation for their season, but there is work yet to be done. They understand that playing as a team is critical and that they must focus on one game at a time to ultimately succeed. The team hits the road this weekend, and in looking ahead, Withiam commented, "This week, we need to stay positive and direct all our focus toward the next game on our schedule (vs. Bates this Saturday 4/2), which is always the most important game."

After the Bates game, the Continentals play at Middlebury on Apr. 6 and Tufts on Apr. 9 before returning home to take on Williams on Apr. 12. With six of Hamilton's final seven games coming against conference opponents, the upcoming three-week home stretch will determine whether or not the Continentals are able to turn their promising start into a program-defining finish.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE DOHERTY

The emergence of underclassmen such as Philbrick '18 has given the team excellent depth.

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
March 31, 2016

Women's lacrosse ranked 12th in DIII coaches poll after 6-2 start

	1	2	T
#17 Bowdoin	2	4	6
#11 Hamilton	7	5	12
> Fletcher (HAM): 3 goals, 1 ast., 4 GBs, 2 DCs			

by Levi Lorenzo '19
Staff Writer

Sitting at 6-2 overall and ranked 12th in the latest Division III polls, the women's lacrosse team is off to a hot start. The team started out the season with a tough 10-9 loss to eighth-ranked Colby on Steuben Field on Mar. 5. Most recently, the team fell to ninth-ranked Amherst 10-6 this past Saturday. Sandwiched in between these two conference losses, the Continentals pulled out a string of six straight wins.

This win streak was highlighted by conference wins over Wesleyan and 20th-ranked Bowdoin along with an impressive 10-9 victory over Florida Southern, then ranked 10th in Division II. Midfielder Darby Philbrick '18 commented, "Spring break in Florida was particularly exciting, as we shut down NESCAC rival Bowdoin, as well as Florida Southern, a Division II team." Reflecting on the team's start and looking forward optimistically, Coach Patty Kloidt said, "We are off to a good start and we are continuing to learn about our team's ability to manage the game as well as the ebb and flow of momentum throughout the game."

According to Coach Kloidt Contributing to the team's success has been their ability "to cultivate the mental toughness necessary to compete well in most of the games." Defender Hannah Withiam '16 said, "we[the team] have learned how to keep our foot on the pedal from the first to the last whistle and dominate teams when we have the ability to do so."

Withiam credits the recent success to "depth on both sides of the ball—defense and attack." She noted, "We have experienced players in goal and on defense, midfield, and attack as well as younger players we can bring in at different points throughout the game to give our opponents new looks." Mental toughness, depth, and experience have all been critical to the Continentals thus far. In addition, Philbrick added, "having confidence in each other and having a burning desire to prove we are a team to be reckoned

*see **Lacrosse**, page 16*

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Fletcher '17 has scored in every game this season.

W. tennis 4-1 over spring break

by Patrick Malin '18
Sports Editor

The women's tennis team entered the spring season as an emerging threat on the national scale. Completing the fall season with an undefeated record, including three 9-0 victories against Oneonta, Union and Cortland, the Continentals were ranked 19th in the Northeast Region of the ITA Rankings.

Hamilton opened the spring tennis season on Mar. 12 with a matchup against Middlebury, the sixth-ranked team in the nation and a definite contender for the NESCAC crown. The Panthers displayed their dominance, sweeping the Continentals 9-0 and validating their spot amongst the elite teams in Division III tennis. The following day, the Continentals bounced back with an impressive 5-4 victory against a St. Lawrence squad that ranked 31st in the nation. Lindsey Jadow '19 won a five-hour grueling slugfest in the sixth singles spot to clinch the victory for Hamilton against the talented Saints squad.

The Continentals traveled South to Orlando, Florida over spring break, playing five matches over the course of four days from Mar. 20 to 23. A new ITA Division III National Rankings was released the day the Continentals left for Florida, where Hamilton was recognized for its impressive start, ranking 40th in the poll. This is the first time in program history the Continentals have been ranked in the national poll.

To kick off the spring road trip, Hamilton suffered a heart-breaking defeat against Birmingham Southern 5-4. However, Samantha Weeks '19 continued her impressive first season with the Continentals, beating Mary Madison Taylor '19 of Birmingham Southern 6-2, 6-1 to improve to an overall record of 8-1 on the season.

It did not take long for the Continentals to return to their winning ways. In the second match of their trip to Florida, the Continentals defeated St. Catherine University 7-2. Team captain Isabella Schoning '16 and Winnie Tang '17 each tallied singles victories, then teamed up in doubles in a dominating 8-1 victory. The following day, Hamilton competed in a double header against George Fox

*see **Tennis**, page 15*

Softball emerges 7-8 from Florida trip

by Sterling Xie '16
Sports Editor

Long a NESCAC afterthought, the Hamilton softball program entered the season on the verge of a historic breakthrough. The Continentals opened the 2016 campaign with a Florida road trip, playing 15 games against non-conference competition over spring break. Weathering an uneven 10-day stretch, Hamilton ultimately left Florida with a 7-8 record, giving the team important reps before the pivotal conference schedule commences.

The trip began inauspiciously, as the Continentals dropped each of their first four games, including two mercy rule forfeits in the form of a 15-0 defeat against Anderson and 15-2 loss to Farmingdale. However, the team rebounded from an abysmal 1-7 start to win six of the final seven games on the road trip, including a three-game winning streak against Maine-Farmington, Oberlin and Saint Benedict on the final two days.

The latter two contests on Mar. 22 were particularly momentous, as outfielder Olivia Gozdz '16 set a new program record with 139 career hits. The 2015 first-team All-NESCAC selection also hit four home runs against Oberlin, the highest single-game total in school history. Gozdz, who passed Amber O'Connor '09 for the hits record, set the new milestone on a run-scoring double, capping a three-run rally in the sixth inning to put the Continentals ahead for good against Saint Benedict.

The senior is far from the only source of offense in Hamilton's potent lineup, however. Gozdz leads the team with a .415 batting average, but a pair of first-years, catcher Ashleah Yzaguirre '19 and infielder Jodi Weiss '19, are also batting over .400 in regular at-bats. Additionally, Ursula Castiblanco '19 has been the team's best two-way threat, pitching 27.1 innings and receiving 48 at-bats, third-highest on the team. Castiblanco is arguably the team's best power hitter, posting team-highs with five extra base hits and 15 runs batted in (RBIs).

Hamilton's pitching has also seen heavy contributions from first-years. The Continentals are the youngest team in the NESCAC, with Gozdz the only senior on the entire roster. Castiblancoand Molly Leitner '19 have combined to pitch 56 innings this year, with the latter posting a team-best 3.66 earned

*see **Softball** page 15*